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BEXAR COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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February 12, 2009

The Honorable Lamar Smith
United States Representative, District 21
2409 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

With the current economic situation, Bexar County strives toward collaborating with various governmental associations and organizations in areas where opportunities for cost-sharing, while still providing quality services to residents of our community.

Bexar County is a member of the Conference of Urban Counties (CUC) association and as a member is afforded an opportunity to take advantage of participating in the "TechShare" program. Counties participating save money by sharing the cost of research and development on technology projects. Currently, we are actively involved with CUC and the County of Dallas for co-development of a shared Magistration Court Case Management System, a component of the County Integrated Justice System (CIJS).

The Bexar County court case management model is designed to offer court case management services to all entities within Bexar, Comal and Guadalupe Counties, including the City of San Antonio. This new technology replaces an outdated city magistration application in Bexar County that will enhance and streamline business processes for performing the magistration function. The technology will further enable the courts within Bexar, Comal and Guadalupe counties to: reduce court backlogs, improve case management, and facilitate a paperless court management process. Most importantly, counties will benefit fiscally with a new and improved court magistration process while minimizing costs associated with the criminal court system and jail overcrowding. I ask that you make this project one of your top priorities during the appropriations process.

Thank you for your leadership and support in helping Bexar County Commissioners Court accomplish its goal of creating and integrating a court case management system for enhancing services within a tri-county area.

Sincerely,


Nelson W. Wolff

NWW/ccs